

## Hunting Season Info.

### Deer – See Deer Application for unit maps

East River Deer - **CLOSED**  
Archery Deer - **CLOSED**  
Muzzleloader Deer - **CLOSED**  
Youth/Mentor Deer - **CLOSED**

\*Legal shooting time is one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset

### Waterfowl – Population Index: [Click Here](#)

#### Ducks – See unit map in hunting handbook

Low Plains North - **CLOSED**  
Low Plains Middle - **CLOSED**  
Low Plains South - **CLOSED**

#### Canada Geese – See unit map in hunting handbook

Unit 1 - **CLOSED**  
Unit 2 - **CLOSED**

#### Light Geese – Open Feb 14 – May 3

#### White-fronted Geese - **CLOSED**

\*Legal shooting time is one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

### Pheasant

Statewide - **CLOSED**

### Turkey – See Turkey application for unit map and exceptions

Fall - **CLOSED**

Spring - April 11 - May 17 except Davison/Hanson & Lincoln counties.

\*Legal shooting time is one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

## Aurora County

### Lynn Geuke

**Fishing report:** Fishing has been slow

**Wilmarth Mitchell:** Activity is picking up, some nice eating northern pike and largemouth bass being caught. **No**

**Vehicles Off-road.**

**Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Nelson Lake:** No report. The gate is open to go fish for bullheads.

**Hunting report:** Low Activity. Prairie Dogs are out in full force. Have fun be safe.

## Beadle County

### Chris Kuntz

**Fishing Report:**

**Lake Byron:** No activity.

**Mud Lake:** No report.

**Cavour Lake:** No activity.

**Ravine:** No report.

**James River:** The walleye bite has picked up over the last week. Fishing had been fairly slow but many fisherman have been able to catch a limit if they put the time in.

**Hunting Report:** Only a few small flocks of snow geese remain.

## Bon Homme County

**Todd Crownover**

**Fishing Report:**

**Missouri River:** No report.

**Lake Henry:** No report. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Clear Lake:** No report.

**Merkel Lake (Singleton GPA):** No activity.

**West Heritage GPA Pond:** No activity. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Hunting Report:** Snow geese were first seen over a week ago.

## Brookings County

**Jeff Grendler**

**Fishing Reports:** Very few fish being caught. Walleyes are just beginning to spawn. Fishing normally doesn't pick up until just walleyes have spawned. The good walleye bite is probably at least two weeks out.

**Lake Sinai:** **Off limits to game fish spearing.**

**West Lake Oakwood:**

**East Oakwood:**

**Oak Lake:**

**Brush Lake:**

**Lake Poinsett:** **Walleye: Minimum Length 15"**

**East 81 ponds:** **Off limits to game fish spearing.**

**Lake Hendricks:** **No highgrading of any species.**

**Lake Goldsmith:**

**Lake Campbell:**

**Dakota Nature Park:**

**Interstate Lake:**

**Big Sioux River:** A few channel catfish are being caught on the river. Some 4-5 lbs.

**Hunting Report:** This is the perfect time to start looking for turkey hunting spots and obtaining permission. The turkey population is down from previous years and hunters will have to spend some time looking.

Snow geese have migrated on. Very few juvenile flocks left.

Reports of snow geese being dumped in the road ditches around Brookings. Individuals caught will face large fines. One count of littering and one count of wanton waste will be assessed per goose.

## Clay County

**Tony Stokely**

**Fishing Report:**

**Missouri River:** Little activity.

**Vermillion River:** Little activity.

**Hunting Report:** Some archery turkey hunters are out but little success. Gun hunters should have good success this weekend with the number of turkey's seen strutting.

## Davison County

**Andy Petersen**

**Fishing Report:** **Remember Firesteel Creek is off limits to the taking of any baitfish.**

**Lake Mitchell:** Some small panfish. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass & Walleye: Minimum Length 15"**

**James River:** Some Walleye below the dams

**Firesteel Creek:** Off limits to the taking of any baitfish. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass & Walleye: Minimum Length 15"

**Hunting Report:** No report.

## Hanson County

**Andy Petersen/Matt Talbert**

**Fishing Report:** Water temps will be starting to get into the 50s soon. Fishing has been slow yet.

**Lake Hanson:** Small panfish. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Ethan Dam:** No report.

**James River:** Some walleyes below the dams.

**Hunting Report:** No report.

## Hutchinson County

**Brian Humphrey**

**Fishing:**

**Menno Lake:** Slow.

**Tripp Lake:** Slow.

**Dimock Lake:** No activity. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**James River:** Walleyes being caught below the low head dams on the River.

**Hunting:** No activity.

## Jerauld County

**Lynn Geuke**

**Fishing Report:** There has been little activity in the area, due to lack of locations to fish.

**Hunting Report:** Snow geese numbers have been low in the area and hunter numbers are very low.

## Kingsbury County

**Shane Van Bockern**

**Fishing Reports:** EXTREMELY WINDY WEATHER OVER THE WEEKEND KEPT FISHING PRESSURE TO A MINIMUM. DOCKS ARE IN ON AREA WATERS. SOME MODERATE SUCCESS BY SHORE ANGLERS.

**Lake Thompson:** Boat pressure has been light due to weather conditions. Some walleye and pike have been taken by shore anglers.

**West 81:** Fair. Some larger walleyes are being taken from 81 grade by shore anglers

**Lake Whitewood:** SLOW

**Lake Henry:** SLOW.

**Lake Albert:** SLOW

**Spirit Lake:** No activity.

**Lake Preston:** No activity.

**Hunting Report:** Most of the Snow geese have migrated through the area.

## Lake County

**Cody Symens**

**Fishing Report:**

**Lake Madison:** Lake Madison experiencing minimal fishing pressure but should start producing fish near Payne's Access.

**Lake Herman:** Anglers are having some success catching northern pike, and keeper walleye. Several anglers are targeting the outlet and inside Lake Herman State Park. Fishing last week was slower than expected.

**Brant Lake:** A few fishermen trying their luck on the south shoreline access area but having minimal success.

**Long Lake:** No report.

**Lake Henry:** Fishing is fair for keeper walleye near sundown, but with the cool front fishing was hit and miss.

**Lake George:** Fishing off of the road right-of-way is producing walleye in the 14-18" range, but with the cool front fishing was hit and miss.

**Hunting Report:** No report.

## Lincoln County

**Nate Stukel**

**Fishing Report:**

**Big Sioux:** Walleye bite has slowed down a bit with the changing weather.

**Lake Alvin:** Very little fishing activity. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Hudson:** A few Trout are being caught.

**Lake Lakota:** No fishing activity observed.

**Nine Mile Creek:** **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Hunting Report:** No report.

## McCook County

**Matt Talbert**

**Fishing Report:** Fishing has been slow but should start picking up very soon.

**Lake Vermillion:** The occasional walleye or pike is being caught. Several White bass have been caught. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Island Lake:** Occasional pike or walleye. **Off limits to game fish spearing.**

**Lehrman Slough:** No fishing activity.

**Hunting Report:** No activity.

## Miner County

**Evan Meyer**

**Fishing Report:**

**Carthage Lake:** No activity. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Hunting Report:** No activity.

## Minnehaha County

**Jared Hill**

**Fishing Report:**

**Beaver Lake:** Minimal activity.

**Scott Slough:** Small perch fair. Otherwise, a few walleye and crappie.

**Island Lake:** A few walleye. **Off limits to game fish spearing.**

**Loss Lake:** Minimal activity.

**Lost Lake:** Minimal activity.

**Twin Lakes:** A few walleye. **Walleye: Daily limit 1; Minimum length 28"**

**Family Park:** A few trout and walleye.

**Wall Lake:** A few small perch and bluegills.

**Clear Lake:** No reports.

**Diamond Lake:** A few small walleye.

**Hunting Report:** Not much activity.

## Moody County

**Chad Williams**

### **Fishing Report:**

**Big Sioux River:** Anglers are starting to have some success catching a few walleyes, but it has not reached a peak bite yet. There has been good numbers of northern pike and channel catfish being caught. Channel catfish – beef liver. Northern pike – jigs / minnows or spoon lures.

**Hunting Report:** The archery spring turkey season is underway, with the prairie firearm season to open this weekend. I have seen good numbers of turkeys along the Big Sioux River corridor. Turkeys are still bunched up; Toms are starting to be more active with strutting and gobbling on warm / sunny days.

## Sanborn County

**Evan Meyer**

**Fishing Report:** Fishing activity has been slow.

**Hunting Report:** No activity.

## Turner County

**Brian Humphrey**

**Fishing Report:** No activity observed.

**Hunting:** No activity.

## Union County

**Tony Stokely / Nate Stukel**

### **Fishing Report:**

**Missouri River:** Very little activity.

**Big Sioux River:** Very little activity.

**McCook Lake:** Very little activity. **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Hunting Report:** Some archery turkey hunters are out but little success. Gun hunters should have good success this weekend with the number of turkey's seen strutting.

## Yankton County

**Dan Altman**

### **Fishing Report:**

**Marindahl:** Minimal activity and success. Boat anglers are picking up crappie here and there but the action is slow.

**Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"**

**Lewis and Clark:** Minimal activity and success **Walleye: Minimum Length 15"**

**James River:** Minimal activity. Anglers near Kelly's Cove are catching small catfish. **Any sturgeon caught must be immediately returned to the water.**

**Lake Yankton:** Lake Yankton was chemically renovated in fall 2014 to eliminate invasive fish species. It has been restocked but it may be 1-3 years before good fishing returns.

**Missouri River:** Most fishing activity has been near Gavin's Point Dam. Anglers are picking up occasional walleye, white bass and drum. Remember discarding rough fish on shore lines is illegal.

**Hunting Report:** No Report.